

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. 84-74

AN ORDER REQUIRING

ROBERT BORELLO SEWAGE DISPOSAL PONDS, PT. REYES STATION, MARIN COUNTY  
TO CEASE AND DESIST FROM DISCHARGING WASTES CONTRARY TO REQUIREMENTS  
PRESCRIBED BY THE CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay  
Region, (hereinafter called the Board) finds that:

1. Robert Borello Sewage Disposal Ponds, Pt. Reyes Station, Marin County (hereinafter called the discharger), accepts sewage, which is trucked from various sources, at a site located 5 miles north of Pt. Reyes Station. The sewage is discharged into 3 treatment/evaporation ponds, with stormwater and irrigation runoff collected into a fourth pond. Disposal is by evaporation and/or dry weather spray irrigation of pasture land.
2. On June 26, 1973, the Board issued Order No. 73-33, waste discharge requirements for Robert Borello, Class II-2 Disposal Ponds.
3. On November 9, 1979, Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 79-013, was issued to Robert Borello for violations of Order No. 73-33.
4. On October 21, 1981, the Board issued Order No. 81-56, waste disposal and wastewater reclamation requirements for the discharge. The requirements of Order No. 81-56 provide in part as follows:

"A. Prohibitions

1. Acceptance of waste is prohibited unless the freeboard and capacities required in Discharge Specification B.1 of this Order are maintained.

B. Discharge Specifications

1. A minimum freeboard of at least 2 feet shall be maintained in pond 4 and a total freeboard capacity of at least 436,000 gallons (equivalent to two feet per pond) shall be maintained in ponds 1, 2 and 3. Excessive rainfall, but not acceptance of waste, may cause less freeboard. In any event, overflow shall be prevented.

In addition, a total freeboard equivalent to, at least, the following capacities shall be maintained in ponds 1, 2 and 3 on the listed dates:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Freeboard Capacity gallons</u>
a. October 1	996,000
b. November 1	996,000
c. December 1	996,000
d. January 1	851,000
e. February 1	692,000
f. March 1	532,000
g. April 1	436,000

. . . . .

C. Reclaimed Wastewater Specifications

8. All equipment, including pumps, piping, valves, etc., which may at any time contain waste shall be adequately and clearly identified with warning signs, and the discharger shall make all necessary provisions, in addition, to inform the public that the liquid contained is sewage and is unfit for human consumption.....

D. Provisions

1. The discharger shall comply with all prohibitions, specifications and provisions of this Order immediately upon adoption.
2. The discharger shall comply with the following time schedule for constructing improvements necessary for adequate operation:.....

<u>Task</u>	<u>Completion Date</u>
c. Install gauging facilities to allow for accurate visible determinations of the remaining capacity in ponds 1, 2 and 3	by November 1, 1981

. . . . .

3. The discharge shall file with the Board technical reports on self-monitoring work performed according to detailed specifications as directed by the Executive Officer."
5. On March 4, March 12, April 8, May 7, and June 10, 1982, inspections made by Regional Board staff revealed inadequate freeboard in Ponds 1 and 3, and no installation of pond improvements as required by Order No. 81-56. On the May 7th inspection, a black hose was observed from Pond No. 3. The hose was evident several hundred yards downhill from the pond. No discharge was observed.
6. On May 5, 1983, the Board staff received a letter from the discharger agreeing to accept and comply with the Tentative Self-Monitoring Report (SMP) for the disposal ponds. On May 26, 1983, this program became effective.

7. The discharger has failed to file self-monitoring reports for the period May 1983 to present. On May 25, 1984, a letter from the Executive Officer to the discharger required the submittal of delinquent self-monitoring reports. The delinquent reports were submitted in part on October 15, 1984.
8. On August 27 and September 4, 1984, Regional Board staff inspected the Borello pond site and observed inadequate freeboard in Ponds 1 and 3 during both inspections, no warning signs informing the public of the sewage waste, and no useable pond gauges.
9. Based upon calculations by Regional Board staff, the discharger threatens to violate the rainy season pond capacity requirements, and it will not be practicable to achieve these levels without waste removal from the ponds.
10. The Board on October 17, 1984 after due notice to the discharge and other affected persons, conducted a public hearing at which the discharger appeared and evidence was received concerning the discharge.
11. The Board finds that this action is an order to enforce waste discharge requirements previously adopted by the Board. This action is therefore categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15321 of the Resources Agency Guidelines.

IT IS HEREBY ORDER THAT, Robert Borello Sewage Disposal Ponds, Pt. Reyes Station, Marin County, cease and desist from discharging all waste to the disposal ponds and spray irrigating pasture land contrary to requirements contained in Order No. 81-56 as listed in Finding 4 of this Order. Compliance shall be achieved in accordance with the following specifications:

- A. The discharger shall comply forthwith with the Prohibitions, Discharge Specifications, Reclaimed Wastewater Specifications and Provisions of Order No. 81-56 listed in Finding 4 of this Order.
- B. No further waste shall be accepted at the disposal ponds, nor spray irrigation allowed, until such time that it is authorized by the Executive Officer. Authorization shall be based on a demonstration by the discharger that he is in compliance with applicable Specifications and Provisions of Order No. 81-56 and this Order. This authorization may be withdrawn by the Executive Officer if he finds the discharger in violation of the applicable Specifications Provisions of Order No. 81-56 or this Order. Authorization may be given for spray disposal separately from waste acceptable in order to reduce the volume of waste in the discharger's ponds.
- C. The ponds shall contain the required 996,000 gallons of freeboard capacity within 10 days of the date of adoption of this order. The method of disposal of the liquid waste shall be approved by the Executive Officer.
- D. The discharger shall within 5 days of the date of adoption of this Order install gauging facilities in each of ponds 1, 2 and 3 to allow for accurate determinations of the remaining pond capacity.

he discharger shall submit within 15 days of the date of adoption of of this Order a report that summarizes the compliance of the ponds from May 1983 thru August 1984, including descriptive reports of any spills of wastes, observations for seepage, freeboard, overflows and runoff from irrigation areas. The total amount of rainfall for each month during the above mentioned period shall also be included. This report shall contain a description of any violations that occurred, and will include the cause, time and date, duration, amount and location (include map) of the violations. A transmittal letter shall accompany said report that contains a statement by the discharger, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of the signer's knowledge, the report is true and correct.

- F. Order No. 73-33 and Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 79-013 are hereby rescinded.
- G. If the Executive Officer finds that the discharger has failed to comply with provisions of this Order, he is authorized after approval of the Board Chairman, to request the Attorney General to take the appropriate enforcement action against the discharger, including injunction and civil monetary remedies, if appropriate.
- H. If the Executive Officer determines that the provisions of this Order are violated and does not refer the matter to the Attorney General, he is instructed to report to the Board the reasons that the discharger has been unable to comply with the provisions of this Order.

I, Roger B. James, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, on October 17, 1984.

ROGER B. JAMES  
Executive Officer